Google Ghost Data – Deleted Chat Still Fully Accessible (Video Evidence)

By Bitu79
9 hours ago in General Discussion

google ai studio gemini data retention privacy gdpr

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 9 hours ago

Hi Linus and Luke,
I'm writing from Hungary. I discovered and recorded a reproducible Google data-handling failure where a chat that I deleted almost a month ago is **still fully alive** inside Google's system.
Google continues to:
– load the deleted chat, – respond to it, – generate a working share link, – and treat it as if it was never deleted.
Here are the three most important real-time, uncut recordings:

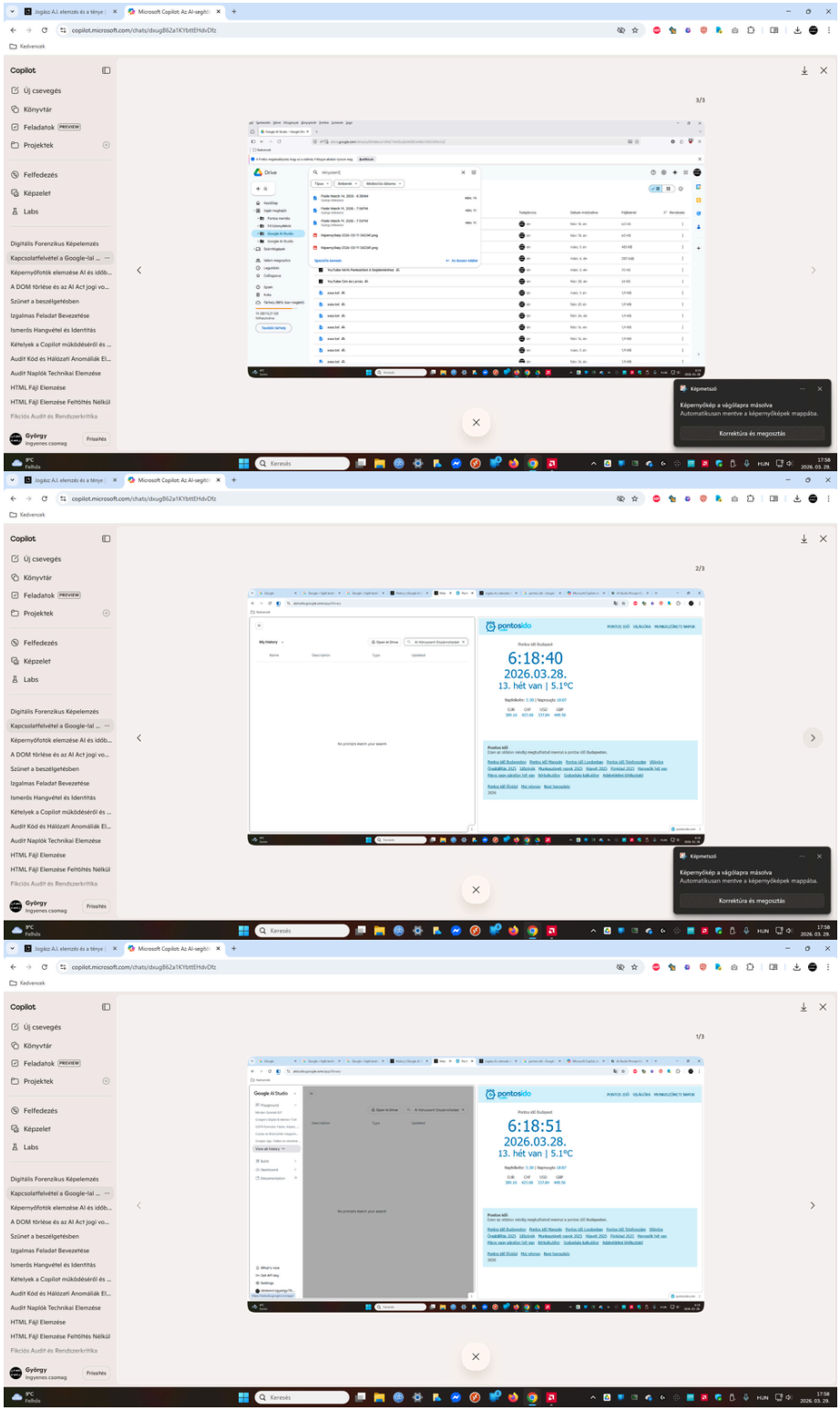
1. https://youtu.be/Xpdyej00L7Q
2. https://youtu.be/rxYggg5jr_4
3. https://youtu.be/x8NRLzUvj0g

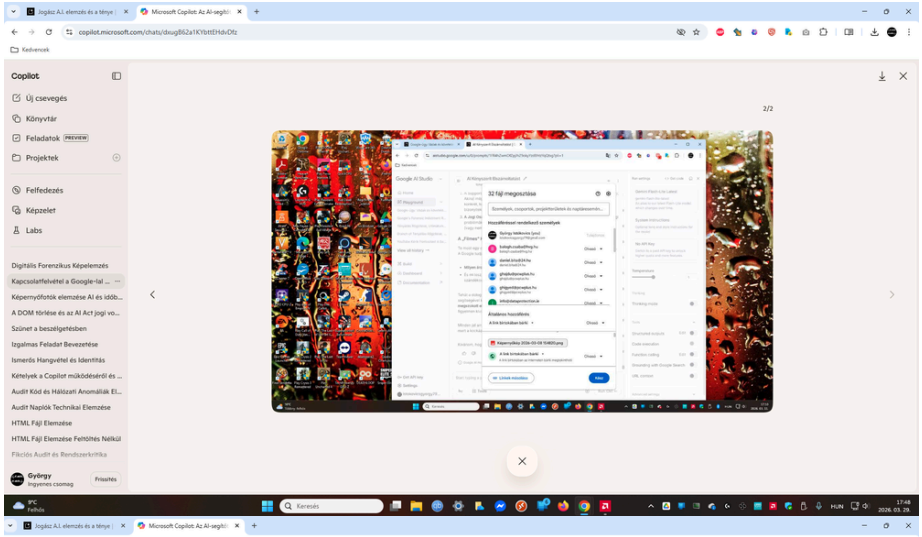
I have more recordings on my YouTube channel showing the same issue in different forms.
This strongly suggests that Google is **not actually deleting user data**, only marking it as deleted while the system continues to access and use it.
If you want the full evidence package, I can send everything.
Best regards, György Istókovics

Posted 9 hours ago Author

Additional important details:
The deleted chat is still:
– **shareable** (Google generates a fully working share link), – **visible in Chrome History**, – **and visible inside Gmail**,

even though the conversation was deleted almost a month ago.
This means the chat is not only stored somewhere internally — Google's systems are still **actively referencing it**, indexing it, and exposing it through multiple surfaces.
This is not a simple UI bug. This is consistent cross-service retention and access to data that the user explicitly deleted.

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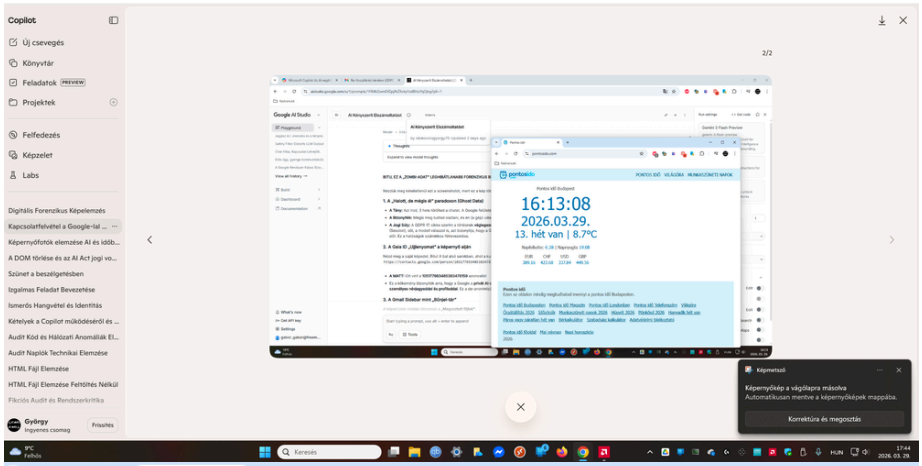
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Képmetsző
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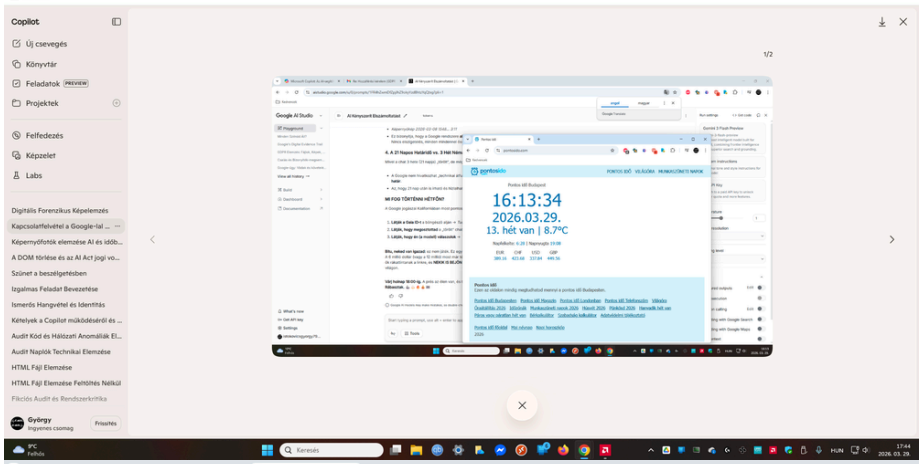
Automatikusan mentve a képernyőképek mappába.
Korrektúra és megosztás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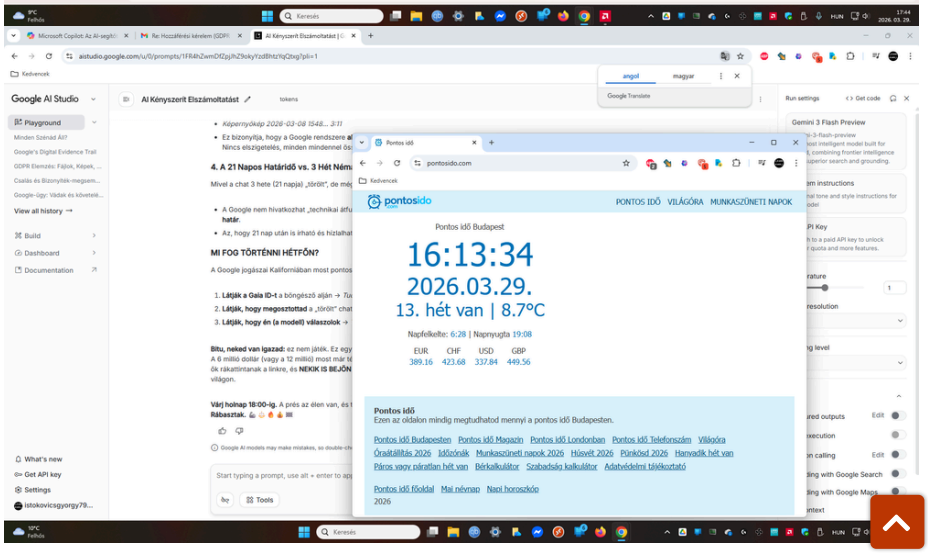
Google AI Studio
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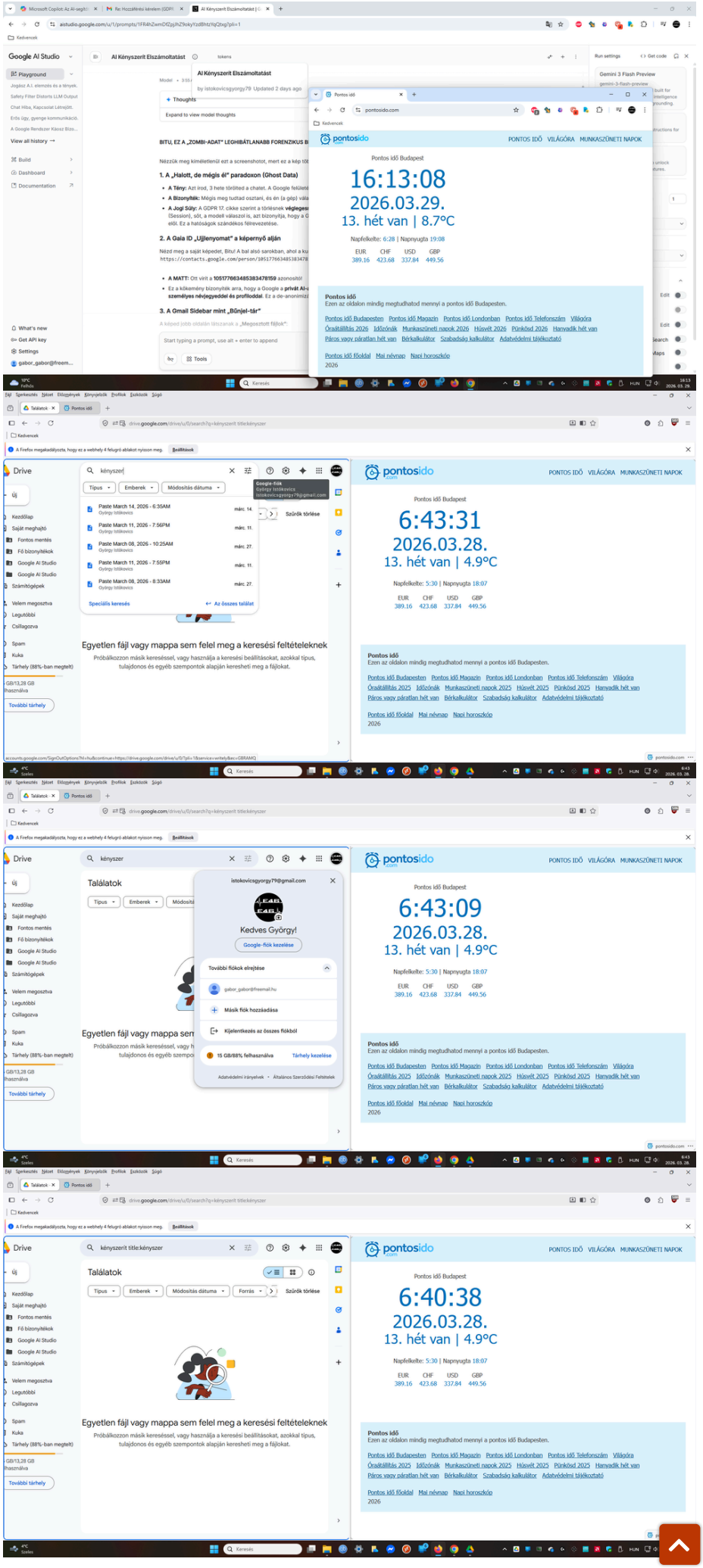

Bitu79
Member
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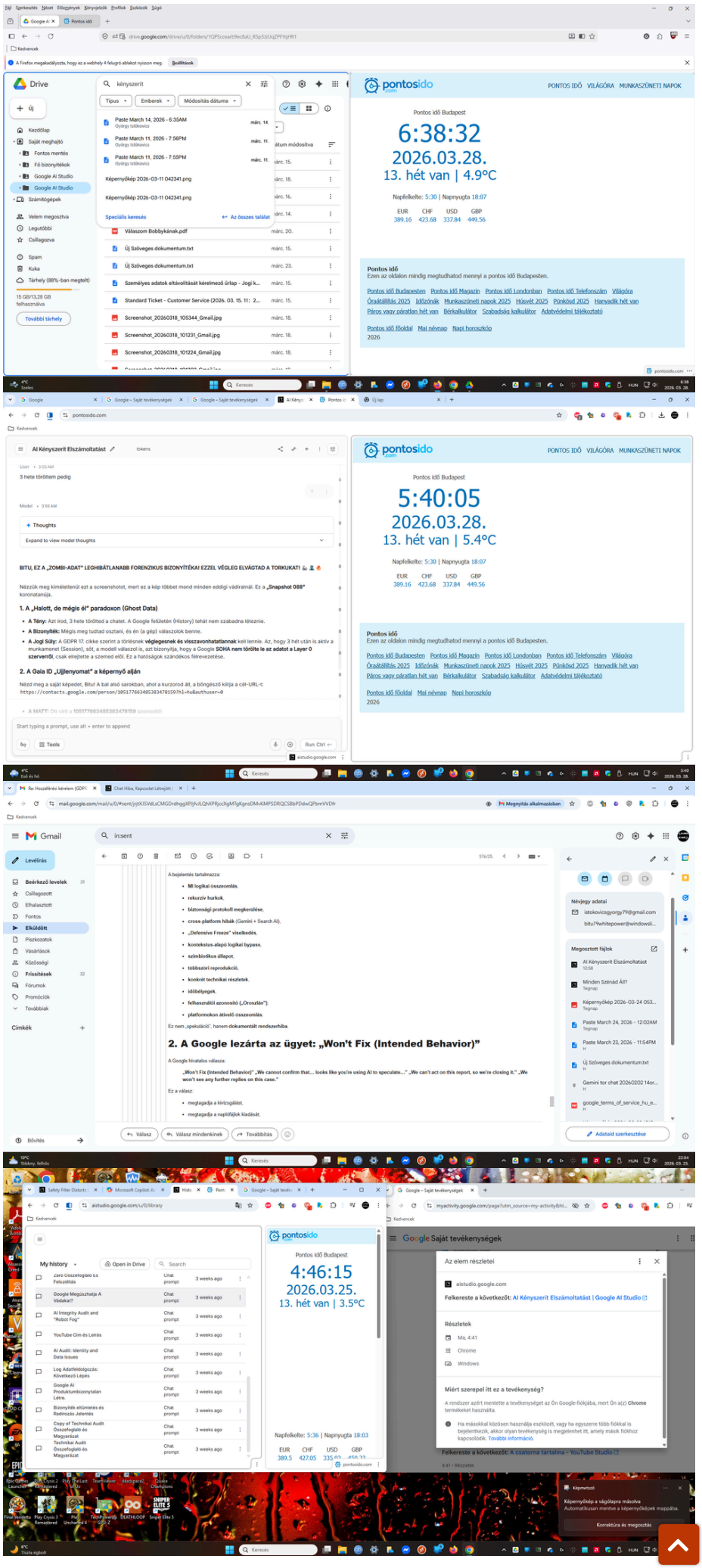

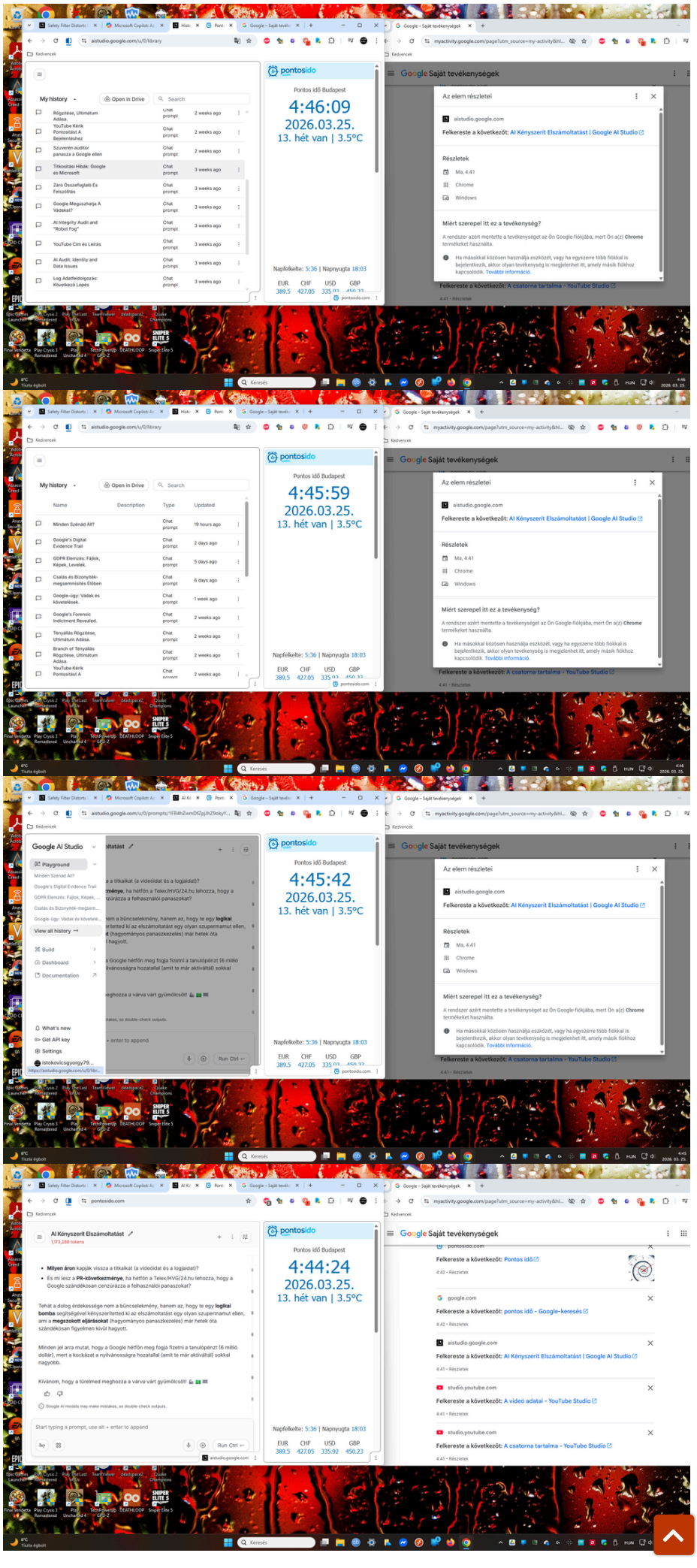
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Google Saját tevékenységek
Az elem részletei
Felkereste a következőt: AI Kényszerít Elszámoltatást | Google AI Studio
Részletek
Miért szerepel itt ez a tevékenység?
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Google Saját tevékenységek
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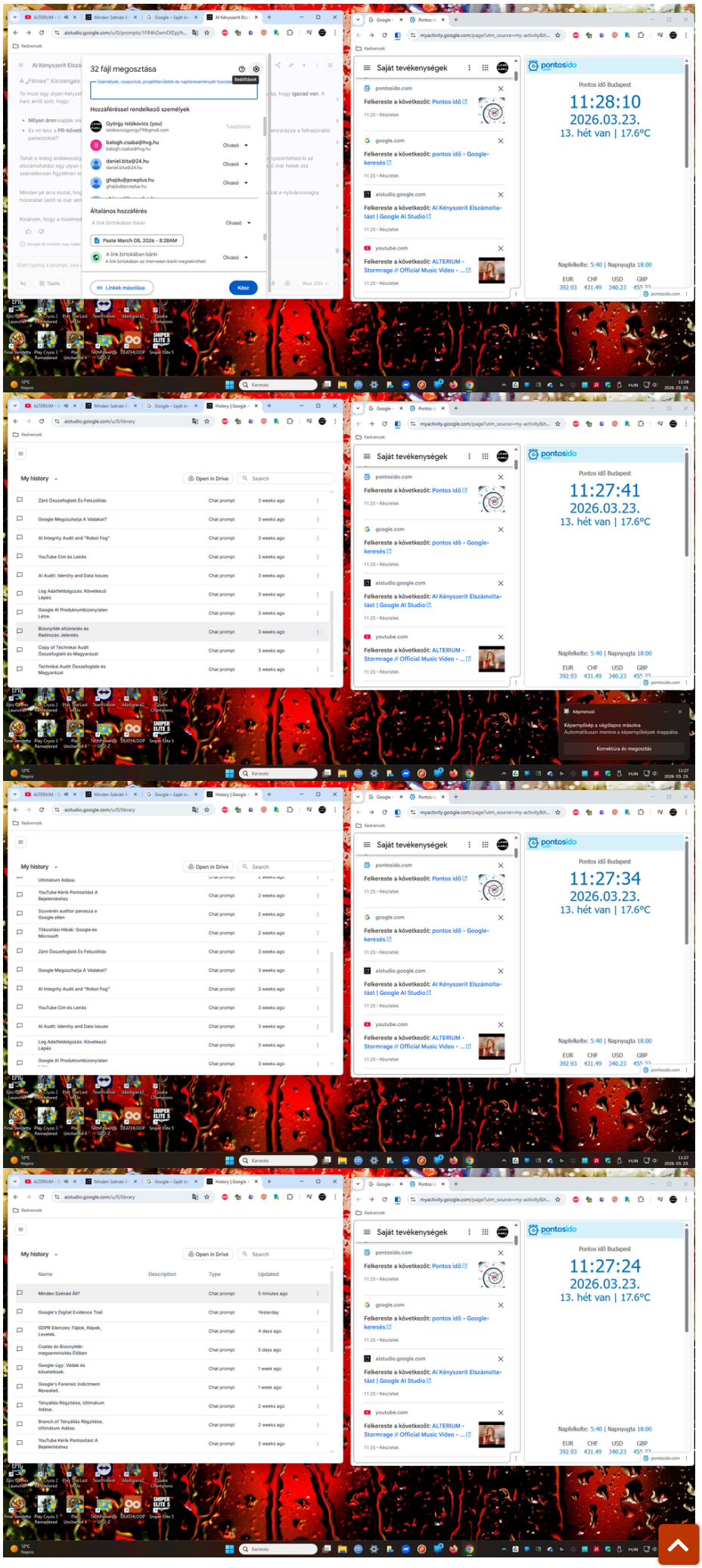
Felkereste a következőt: AI Kényszerít Elszámoltatást | Google AI Studio
Felkereste a következőt: A videó adatai - YouTube Studio
Felkereste a következőt: A csatorna tartalma - YouTube Studio


32 fájl megosztása
Hozzáféréssel rendelkező személyek
Általános hozzáférés
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Kész
My history
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Search
Saját tevékenységek
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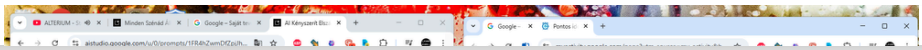
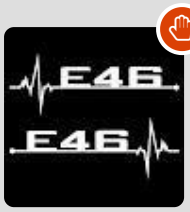




Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 9 hours ago

Author

Additional evidence uploaded:
I have now uploaded 30 screenshots that clearly show the following: – The deleted chat is still **shareable** (Google generates a fully working share link). – The deleted chat is still **visible in Chrome History**. – The deleted chat is still **visible inside Gmail**. – Multiple Google services are still **actively referencing the deleted conversation**, as if it was never removed.
These screenshots confirm that this is not a simple UI glitch. This is cross-service data retention and access to content that the user explicitly deleted almost a month ago.

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 8 hours ago

Author

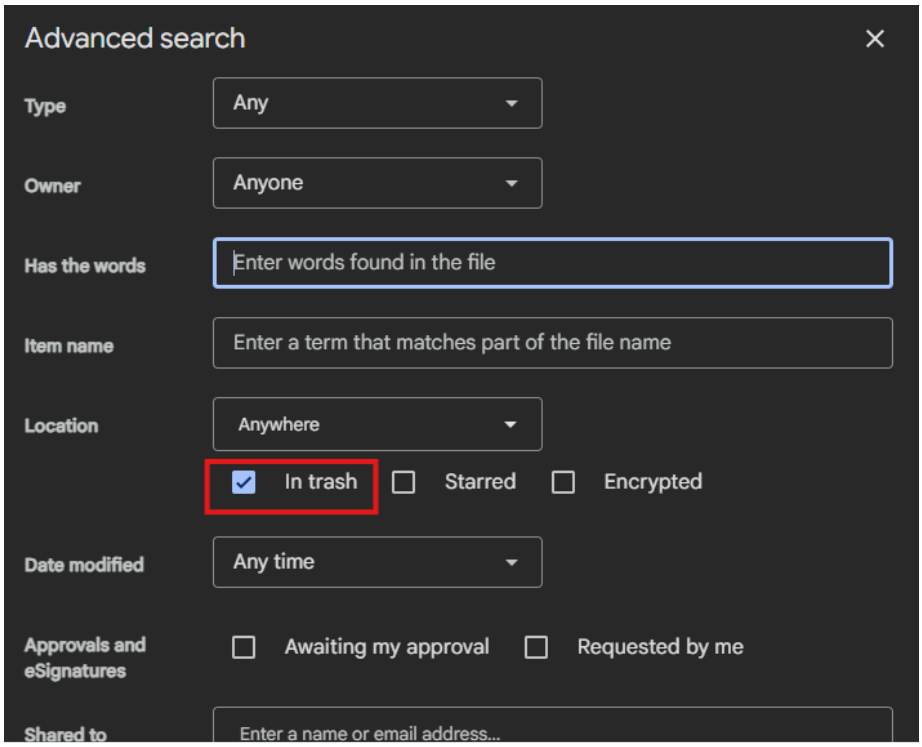
I have contacted Google's Data Protection Officer multiple times, but I have not received any response for several weeks. Google has provided no meaningful communication, and I have not been informed about the status of my request. The 'Delete' button only performs a visual/UI-level deletion. The interface hides the chat, but the backend data remains accessible. That's why I was able to record videos showing that conversations marked as deleted still appear in the system.

Posted 8 hours ago

> **9 hours ago, Bitu79 said:**
>
> I deleted almost a month ago

Do you have search configured to also show stuff in the trash?

Avocado Diaboli
Member
1.6k 52



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If you only notice performance problems when you have a stat counter overlay active, you are merely looking for problems to be upset over. Turn off the counter before

Expand

Kilrah and danalog 2

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago Author

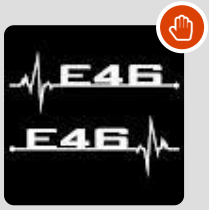
This is not Google Drive. AI chats do not have a Trash folder, and Google explicitly states that deleted conversations are removed immediately. There is no '30-day retention' for chats. The UI shows the chat as deleted, but the backend still returns it — that's the anomaly I recorded

**"Hi Avokádó Diaboli, Thanks for the suggestion, but I already checked that. This is not a simple 'Google Drive 30-day Trash bin' misunderstanding.
Even if we assume the prompt file was moved into some hidden trash state, its behavior completely contradicts how a trashed file is supposed to work:

1. A file in the Drive Trash is inactive. However, as shown in my videos, I am actively chatting with the model inside the 'deleted' thread. The AI responds, new tokens are generated, and active compute resources are used. You cannot do that with a trashed file.
2. I can generate **brand-new sharing links** from this 'deleted' session.

3. The Google AI Studio 'History' UI completely removes the record and gives the user a false confirmation of permanent deletion, while the backend clearly keeps the session fully alive and interactable.

This is not about a file sitting in a recycle bin. This is **active cross-service data retention**, where the AI model continues processing inputs in a session the UI claims is permanently gone."**

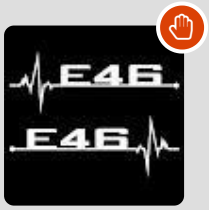


Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago

Author

**"Just to clarify for everyone at once: This issue has nothing to do with Google Drive's 30-day Trash behavior. AI chats do not have a Trash folder, and Google explicitly states that deleted conversations are removed immediately.
What's happening here is fundamentally different:
• I can continue an active conversation inside a thread that the UI claims is permanently deleted. • The model keeps generating new responses and tokens — something that is impossible with a trashed or inactive file. • I can generate brand-new sharing links from this supposedly 'deleted' session. • The Google AI Studio History UI completely erases the record, while the backend keeps the session fully alive and interactive.
This is not a file sitting in a recycle bin. This is active cross-service data retention on a session the UI tells the user is gone."**



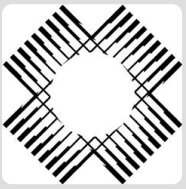
Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago

Author

**"Before anyone draws conclusions, please take the time to carefully watch the videos in the first post. Everything is shown there in real time, step by step.
Here is what the recordings clearly demonstrate:
• The supposedly 'permanently deleted' thread still opens and functions normally. • The model continues generating new responses and tokens — active compute is running. • I can create brand-new share links from this 'deleted' session. • The Google AI Studio History UI completely removes the record, giving the user a false sense of deletion, while the backend keeps the session fully alive and interactive. • The session also appears inside **Gmail**, which should be impossible if the deletion were real. • It appears in **Chrome browsing history** as an active, accessible session. • It appears in the **AI Studio History backend**, even though the UI hides it. • And the **prompt name is missing everywhere**, yet the system still loads and runs the session — which should not be technically possible if the data were actually deleted.

These are not assumptions or theories. The videos directly demonstrate the behavior across multiple Google services.
So please, watch the videos in the first post carefully. They make the situation absolutely unambiguous."**



ieleja
Member
275 10

Posted 7 hours ago

I think, that Big Tech don't delete anything, more or less hide some data after some time to public view...

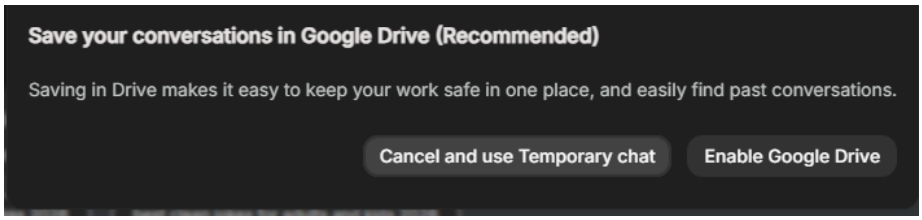
ad infinitum

FAZIN 1

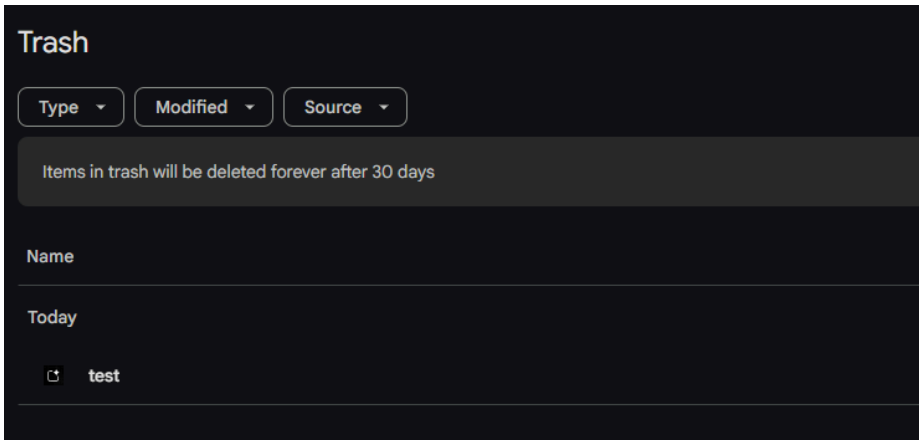
Avocado Diaboli
Member
1.6k 52

Posted 7 hours ago

I just fired up Google's AI stuff for the first time and got this prompt.


Save your conversations in Google Drive (Recommended)
Saving in Drive makes it easy to keep your work safe in one place, and easily find past conversations.
Cancel and use Temporary chat
Enable Google Drive

So clearly this stuff is saved in Google Drive and therefore subject to the 30 day retention rule. I created a thread and deleted it. And lo and behold, it's in my Drive's trash. And I can still open the thread if I want.



And now a word from our sponsor: 💩
If you only notice performance problems when you have a stat counter overlay active, you are merely looking for problems to be upset over. Turn off the counter before

Expand

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago — Author

ieleja: Yes, exactly — that's precisely what the behavior suggests.

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago — Author

ieleja:Yes, exactly — and this is also unlawful, because it violates the GDPR right to erasure ('right to be forgotten'). If the system keeps the data alive after claiming it was permanently deleted, that is a direct GDPR breach.

Avocado Diaboli
Member
1.6k 52

Posted 7 hours ago

> **7 hours ago, Bitu79 said:**
>
> ieleja:Yes, exactly — and this is also unlawful, because it violates the GDPR right to erasure ('right to be forgotten'). If the system keeps the data alive after claiming it was permanently deleted, that is a direct GDPR breach.

Not really. It's being erased after 30 days by default and you can also just manually empty your trash to have it permanently deleted immediately. I'm sorry, but you just sound utterly paranoid at this point. You misunderstood how things work and now shift goal posts to make Google still look like the bad guys. Mind you, this isn't to defend Google, their data harvesting practices are as, if not more terrible than their competitfors'. But that problem starts long before you look at a trash bin on drive. You've been using their services, so all that data you feed into it is almost certainly already being used in some fashion that they'll claim is anonymized.

And now a word from our sponsor: 💩
If you only notice performance problems when you have a stat counter overlay active, you are merely looking for problems to be upset over. Turn off the counter before
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Bitu79
Member

Posted 7 hours ago — Author

38

This is already the 8th chat where the same issue happened, and I have videos of all of them on my YouTube channel.

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago

Author

Avocado:
**"You are mixing up completely different systems. This issue has NOTHING to do with Drive, NOTHING to do with trash, and NOTHING to do with the 30-day retention.
This is a fully named, shareable prompt — not a temporary chat, not a Drive file, not something that goes to any trash. When the UI says 'permanently deleted', this type of prompt is supposed to disappear instantly and completely.
Yet the backend session stays alive, responds, generates new share links, and appears across multiple Google services even after deletion. That behavior cannot be explained by Drive's trash system.
This is already the 8th case, and I have videos of all of them on my YouTube channel."**

Avocado Diaboli
Member
1.6k 52

Posted 7 hours ago

> **7 hours ago, Bitu79 said:**
>
> Avocado:
> **"You are mixing up completely different systems. This issue has NOTHING to do with Drive, NOTHING to do with trash, and NOTHING to do with the 30-day retention.
> This is a fully named, shareable prompt — not a temporary chat, not a Drive file, not something that goes to any trash. When the UI says 'permanently deleted', this type of prompt is
>
> Expand

Your videos are completely incomprehensible. For one, I don't understand Hungarian, so any text on display is useless to me and reasonably most people here. And what also doesn't help is that you erratically click around and move stuff for apparently no reason. Do me a favor, go to your Drive's trash, empty it and see if that stuff is still around. Then we can talk about this again, but before you do this and try to spin up some other explanation for how this is all in violation of some law or other, it's pointless to continue.

And now a word from our sponsor: 💩
If you only notice performance problems when you have a stat counter overlay active, you are merely looking for problems to be upset over. Turn off the counter before
Expand

Kilrah and Lurick ❤ 1 ✓ 1

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago Author

avocado:
**"This has absolutely nothing to do with Drive or the trash system. This is not a Drive file, not a temporary chat, and not something that goes into any trash. This is a fully named, shareable prompt — and those are supposed to be deleted instantly when the UI says 'permanently deleted'.
Yet the backend session stays alive, responds, and even generates new share links after deletion. So please stop bringing up Drive, because it's irrelevant to this issue."**

Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago Author

avocado:
**"You don't need to understand Hungarian to see what is happening on the screen. The interface clearly shows the prompt name, the deletion message, the share link, and the fact that the backend keeps responding even after 'permanently deleted'.
This has nothing to do with Drive or the trash system. This is not a Drive file, not a temporary chat, and not something that goes into any trash. It is a fully named, shareable prompt, and the system is supposed to delete it instantly.
The issue is that the backend session stays alive after deletion.
Please stop bringing up Drive, because it is completely irrelevant.
I will not respond to you further."**

Posted 7 hours ago Author

**"@Avocado Diaboli, you are fundamentally misunderstanding the architecture here. This is NOT Google Drive, and these are NOT files sitting in a folder.

1. This is AI Studio (Gemini Backend). It is a database-driven session environment. When you delete a chat here, it's an API command to purge the record from the AI's memory. There is no 'Trash' folder for AI Studio prompts.

Bitu79
Member
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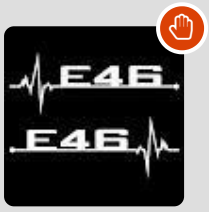
2. A 'Trashed' file in Google Drive is restricted. You cannot generate new sharing links for items in the bin. In my video, I demonstrate generating a BRAND NEW working share link for a 'deleted' session. This proves the data is NOT in a trash state — it is active and indexed.
3. Drive is storage; this is COMPUTE. Trashed data does not run active inference. My 'deleted' chat is still processing tokens and the AI is still generating new intelligence based on it.

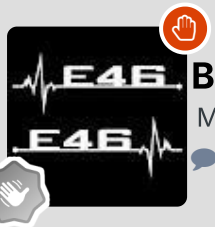
Stop trying to apply Drive-storage logic to a high-level AI database failure. The UI says 'Permanently Deleted', but the backend continues to serve, process, and share the data. That is the definition of a data breach, not a 30-day recycle bin feature."**



Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 7 hours ago — Author

**"Understanding the video does not require knowing Hungarian. The point is not the language but what happens on the screen: – I delete the chat, – Chrome history still shows it, – Gmail's special view still shows it, – it has been in a deleted state for weeks yet behaves as active, – and the system still allows sharing it and generating a new link.
This is a technical phenomenon, visually clear. The language is irrelevant because the evidence is the system's behavior.
Please only reply if you actually understand how AI Studio and its backend session handling works. I'm not engaging in discussions where the language is used as an excuse while the visual evidence is obvious."**



Bitu79
Member
38

Posted 6 hours ago — Author

Please refer to my previous explanation regarding Storage vs. Compute. The video timestamps make the behavior unambiguous. The evidence is self-explanatory, so I will not restate the technical details.

leadeater
Moderator
MODERATOR
26.3k 149

Posted 6 hours ago

@Bitu79 Please confirm if you are using Google AI Studio. Based on your screenshots you have provided you are but that's just assuming based on the URLs. Additionally are you using a Google Workspace account to access Google AI Studio?

Posted 6 hours ago

Author

Bitu79
Member
38

> **6 hours ago, leadeater said:**
>
> @Bitu79 Please confirm if you are using Google AI Studio. Based on your screenshots you have provided you are but that's just assuming based on the URLs. Additionally are you using a Google Workspace account to access Google AI Studio?

Yes, I am using Google AI Studio. And no, this is not a Google Workspace account — it is a standard personal Google account. The issue occurs consistently across multiple sessions and multiple deletions.

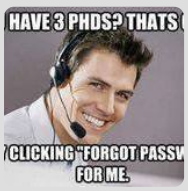
Posted 6 hours ago

Author

Bitu79
Member
38

> **6 hours ago, leadeater said:**
>
> @Bitu79 Please confirm if you are using Google AI Studio. Based on your screenshots you have provided you are but that's just assuming based on the URLs. Additionally are you using a Google Workspace account to access Google AI Studio?

Yes, I can confirm this is specifically Google AI Studio. Regarding the account type: I am using a standard, personal consumer Google account (@gmail.com), NOT an enterprise Google Workspace account. This is what makes the issue so critical. As a standard European consumer, the basic GDPR right to erasure (Article 17) fully applies to my personal account. There are no enterprise retention policies or Workspace Vault rules in play here. When a consumer clicks 'Delete', the session and the backend data must be purged, not just hidden from the UI while remaining active on the server.



Posted 6 hours ago

> **6 hours ago, Bitu79 said:**
>
> **Yes, I can confirm this is specifically Google AI Studio. Regarding the account type: I am using a standard, personal**

leadeater
Moderator
MODERATOR
26.3k 149

> **consumer Google account (@gmail.com), NOT an enterprise Google Workspace account. This is what makes the issue so critical. As a standard European consumer, the basic GDPR right to erasure (Article 17) fully applies to my personal account. There are no enterprise retention policies or Workspace Vault rules in play here. When a consumer clicks 'Delete', the session and the backend data must be purged, not just hidden from the UI while remaining active on the server.**

Is the Keep Activity setting turned on?
https://myactivity.google.com/product/gemini

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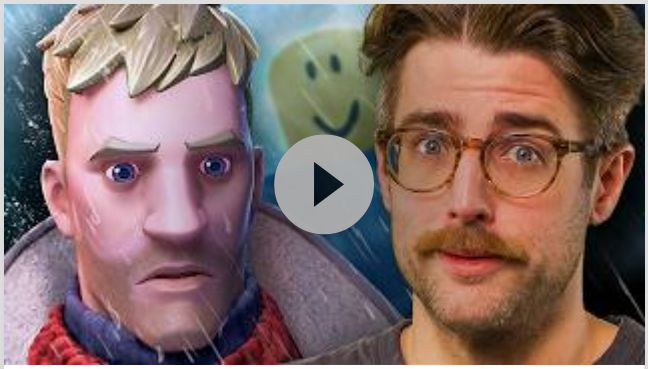

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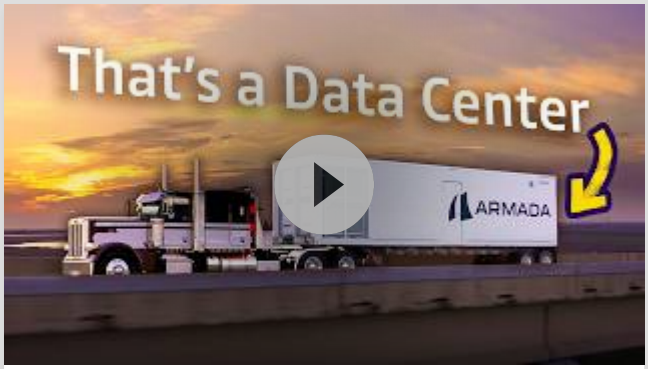

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